

Name: _____ Date: _____

Influential Indigenous People

Research question:

How has this person made a difference in their community or the world?

Influential Person: Joy Harjo

What tribe/nation are they from?

Muscogee (Creek) Nation (Kiddle) (Big Ideas)

When did this person live (or are they still living today)?

Born May 9, 1951; Still alive (Kiddle) (Big Ideas)

Key details about their childhood

- *Tulsa, Oklahoma (Kiddle) (Big Ideas)*
- *wrote her first poem in eighth grade (Kiddle)*
- *mom, grandma, and aunts inspired creativity (Kiddle)*
- *attended Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico (Kiddle) (Big Ideas)*

Key details about their adulthood

- *loved to share stories (Big Ideas)*
- *published many books (Big Ideas)*
- *professor at colleges and universities (Kiddle)*
- *first Native American to be named the United States Poet Laureate 2019–2022 (Kiddle) (Big Ideas)*

What challenges did they face? How did they overcome those challenges?

- *not many stories of Native people*
- *Native people often stereotyped or erased*
- *found voice in poetry (Kiddle) (Big Ideas)*

What lessons can we learn from their life story?

- *creativity connect to culture (Big Ideas)*
- *remember to celebrate who you are (Big Ideas)*
- *share your story (Big Ideas)*

Additional facts about the person

- *"painting but with words" (Big Ideas)*
- *plays the sax (Big Ideas)*
- *inspired by nature (Big Ideas)*
- *activist for Native rights (Kiddle)*